

R E M A R K S

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. In the Office Action of June 2, 2005, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *U.S. Patent Application 2003/0030767 ("767")*.
- B.) Rejected claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over '767 in view of *U.S. Patent Application 2004/0183969 ("969")*.
- C.) Objected to claims 5-10 and 14-16.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and address the Examiner's disposition below.

- A.) Rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *U.S. Patent Application 2003/0030767 ("767")*:

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

The Examiner states in the Office Action dated June 2, 2005 that claim 8 is allowable over the cited references. Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the language of the claim and to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8. Therefore, claim 1, as amended, is allowable over '767. Claim 8 has accordingly been canceled.

Claims 2-4 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

- B.) Rejection of claims 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over '767 in view of *U.S. Patent Application 2004/0183969 ("969")*:

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

The Examiner states in the Office Action dated June 2, 2005 that claim 8 is allowable over the cited references. Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify the language of the claim and to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8. Therefore, claim 1, as amended, is allowable over '767 in view of '969. Claim 8 has accordingly been canceled.

Claims 11-13 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

C.) Objected to claims 5-10 and 14-16:

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's finding of allowable subject matter in claims 5-10 and 14-16.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 8. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable.

Claim 14 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claims 5-7 and 14 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 8-10, 15, and 16 have been canceled.

Applicants respectfully submit the objection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Claim 17 is newly added. In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-7, 11-14, and 17 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Christopher P. Rauch Reg. 45,034
Christopher P. Rauch
SONNENSCHEIN, NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box #061080
Wacker Drive Station - Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
Telephone 312/876-2606
Customer #26263
Attorneys for Applicant(s)